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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/877,585
		Filing Date	06/08/2001
		First Named Inventor	Basford, William C.
		Group Art Unit	2856
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	

### ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- Fee Transmittal Form
- Fee Attached
- Amendment / Reply
- After Final
- Affidavits/declaration(s)
- Extension of Time Request
- Express Abandonment Request
- Information Disclosure Statement
- Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
- Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- Drawing(s)
- Licensing-related Papers
- Petition
- Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- Terminal Disclaimer
- Request for Refund
- CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- After Allowance Communication to Group
- Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- Proprietary Information
- Status Letter
- Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Transmittal Letter  
Copies of References cited  
Return Receipt Postcard

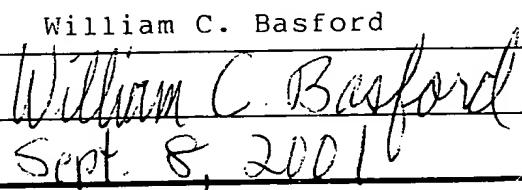
Remarks

Express Mail Label Number:

ET 540584272 US

MAIL ROOM

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	William C. Basford
Signature	
Date	Sept. 8, 2001

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name		Date
Signature		

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PTO/SB/17 (11-00)  
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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$ 180)

## Complete if Known

Application Number	09/877,585
Filing Date	06/08/2001
First Named Inventor	Basford, William
Examiner Name	
Group Art Unit	2856
Attorney Docket No.	

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

1.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deposit Account Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

2.  Payment Enclosed:

Check  Credit card  Money Order  Other

## FEE CALCULATION

### 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 710	201 355	Utility filing fee	_____
106 320	206 160	Design filing fee	_____
107 490	207 245	Plant filing fee	_____
108 710	208 355	Reissue filing fee	_____
114 150	214 75	Provisional filing fee	_____

**SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)**

### 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
_____	_____	-20** = _____	X _____	= _____
_____	_____	- 3** = _____	X _____	= _____
Multiple Dependent _____ = _____				

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 18	203 9	Claims in excess of 20
102 80	202 40	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 270	204 135	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109 80	209 40	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 18	210 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

**SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)**

\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

### 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	_____
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	_____
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	_____
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	_____
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	_____
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	_____
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	_____
116 390	216 195	Extension for reply within second month	_____
117 890	217 445	Extension for reply within third month	_____
118 1,390	218 695	Extension for reply within fourth month	_____
128 1,890	228 945	Extension for reply within fifth month	_____
119 310	219 155	Notice of Appeal	_____
120 310	220 155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	_____
121 270	221 135	Request for oral hearing	_____
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	_____
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	_____
141 1,240	241 620	Petition to revive - unintentional	_____
142 1,240	242 620	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	_____
143 440	243 220	Design issue fee	_____
144 600	244 300	Plant issue fee	_____
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	_____
123 50	123 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	_____
126 180	126 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	180
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	_____
146 710	246 355	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	_____
149 710	249 355	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	_____
179 710	279 355	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	_____
169 900	169 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	_____

Other fee (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

**SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)**

180

SUBMITTED BY		Complete (if applicable)		
Name (Print/Type)	William C. Basford	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	N/A	Telephone
Signature	William C. Basford			802-229-0217
Date				09/08/2001

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24 Vine Street, Apt. 2  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
September 8, 2001  
(802) 229-0217

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed with this transmittal letter is an Information Disclosure Statement to support my utility patent application 09/877,585, submitted on June 8, 2001, for an invention titled Apparatus to Reduce Base Drag Behind Bluff Bodies. This letter and the enclosed reference material will be sent by Express Mail, Post Office to Addressee, using the express mail label number attached to the transmittal form.

Due to the enormous volume of published literature on the topic of reducing the aerodynamic base drag of bluff bodies, I have listed and enclosed copies of only about twenty four of the most pertinent references. Other older publications listed in the references cited can be considered as further background material, but are less pertinent to the subject patent application.

Much of the recent work in this field has apparently been published only on the Internet, so I have included several web sites in my list of references, and enclosed printed copies of these web sites. The last reference listed, citation 20, is the web site of a team of researchers from several universities and government laboratories, which is working under contract to the U.S. Dept. of Energy's Office of Heavy Vehicle Technologies, on a project to reduce the aerodynamic drag of heavy vehicles. This project has apparently been focussed on using powerful computers and computational fluid dynamics (CFD) methods to confirm the drag reductions obtained by several previously known methods for base drag reduction. They have apparently not made any new advances to date in the art of aerodynamic base drag reduction.

Their web site alone lists about twenty-six electronic publications on the topic of aerodynamic drag reduction for heavy vehicles. Most of these publications are little more than slide shows, apparently intended to accompany oral presentations, and therefore contain little explanatory text. Nevertheless, many of these computer files are very large, due to their extensive use of color graphics in the files. Furthermore, no abstracts have been provided for most of these electronic publications, which makes it difficult to review their work in a timely manner.

Due to my lack of access to either a high speed Internet connection or a color printer, I have been unable to review many of the larger files, or to print the smaller files in a useful format. However, I have found no evidence to date that this team has discovered any of the novel features of the new base drag reduction method disclosed in my patent application.

Very Truly Yours,

*William C. Basford*  
William C. Basford, P.E.

Date: Sept. 8, 2001